

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NOUAKC 02170 071652Z

43

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EA-07 ISO-00 IOE-00 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 /110 W

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P R 071600Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6283

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 2170

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, MR, KS, KN

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: KOREA 31ST UNGA

REF: STATE 218647

SUMMARY: MAURITANIAN PERMREP TO UNITED NATIONS TOLD CHARGE THAT HE IS UNDER INSTRUCTION NOT RPT NOT TO CO-SPONSOR PRO-NORTH KOREAN UNGA RESOLUTION. GIRM HAS NOT YET HDE FINAL DECISION ON HOW IT WILL REACT TO TWO DIFFERENT RESOLUTIONS BEFORE UNGO ON KOREA. IN SPITE OF RECENT DETERIORATION IN NORTH KOREAN-MAURITANIAN RELATIONS, KOREAN QUESTION IS STILL CONSIDERED "DELICATE". END SUMMARY.

1. CHARGE DISCUSSED KOREAN QUESTION ON SEPT. 4 WITH FRG AMBKGDR VON MAGNUS IN HIS CAPACITY AS CORE GROUP REPRESENTATIVE FOR MAURITANIA. VON MAGNUS REAFFIRMED THAT LAST TIME HE DISCUSSED MATTER WITH GIRM WAS DURING JULY 30 CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MOUKNASS (NOUAKCHOTT 1842). ALTHOUGH USUN 3323 DATED AUGUST 19 SUGGEYNED THAT FRG AMBASSADOR TO MAURITANIA MIGHT BE INSTRUCTED TO RAISE KOREAN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NOUAKC 02170 071652Z

ISSUE AGAIN, VON MAGNUS STATED THAT HEHTAS RECEIVED NO NEW

INSTRUCTIONS ON SUBJECT. (PREVIOUS INDICATIONS OF GIRM POSITVTUON KOREAN QUESTION WERE REPORTED IN NOUAKCHOTT 1327, 1744, 1842, 1882, 2073 AND COLOMBO 3129.)

2. COLOMBO 3129 REPORTED THAT GIRM FOREIGN MINISTER MOUK-NASS ASSURED USUN MISOFF THAT MOUKNASS WOULD SEND TELEGRAM TO MAURITANIAN PERMREP TO UN,ROULAYE EL HASSEN, INSTRUCTING HIM NOT TO CO-SPONSOR PRO-NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION. THEREFORE, I TOOK OCCASION OF HASSEN'S PRESENCE IN NOUAKCHOTT TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER HE HAD BEEN SO INFORMED. DURING SEPT. 7 CALL ON HASSEN, I EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR GIRM RESERVATIONS AT COLOMBO ON KOREAN AND PUERTO RICAN RESOLUTIONS. FURTHER NOTED IN CASE OF KOREAN QUESTION AT UNGA THAT WE HOPED GIRM, IN EVENT IT COULD NOT SUPPORT OUR POSITION ON KOREA, WOULD ABSTAIN OR ABSENT ITSELF. HASSEN REPLIED THAT KOREA IS VERY DELICATE ISSUE, ADDING THAT GIRM POLICY HAS NOT YET BEEN FULLY OR FINALLY DETERMINED. HASSEN DID NOT GIVE ANY INDICATION HOW MAURITANIA WOULD REACT WHEN TWO KOREAN RESOLUTIONS COME UP FOR VOTE. ON OTHER HAND, IN RESPONSE TO OBSERVATION THAT GIRM HAS NOT CO-SPONSORED PRO-NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION. HASSEN STATED UNHESITATINGLY THAT HE IS UNDER INSTRUCTION NOT RPT NOT TO CO-SPONSOR PRO-NORTH KOREAN RESOLUTION. (HASSEN DEPARTS MAURITANIA FOR NEW YORK ON SEPT. 9.)

3. OF RELATED INTEREST, WE RECENTLY LEARNED FROM WELL-INFORMED MAURITANIAN THAT GIRM SIGNED FISHERIES AGREEMENT WITH SOUTH KOREA ON AUGUST 24. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN NO PUBLIC MENTION OF THIS DEVELOPMENT, WE ASSUME AGRUEMENT WAS SIGNED DURING VISIT TO NOUAKCHOTT BY PRESIDENT OF KOREAN DEEP SEA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION (SEOUL 6415). AS WE HAVE REPORTED IN PAST, HOWEVER, GIRM MAKES DISTINCTION BETWEEN COMMERCIAL AND POLITICAL RELATIONS. THEREFORE, THIS DEVELOPMENT SHOULD NOT LEAD TO CONCLUSION THAT GIRM IS PREPARED TO SUPPORT SOUTH KOREA ON POLITICAL LEVEL.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH MAURITANIA, BARRING UNFORESEEN DEVELOPMENTS, CANNOT BE EXPECTED TO SUPPORT PRO-SOUTH KOREAN RESOLUTION IN UNGA, BELIEVE THERE IS REASONABLY CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NOUAKC 02170 071652Z

GOOD CHANCE THAT GIRM WILL EITHER WWSSENT ITSELF OR ABSTAIN ON KOREAN QUESTION. FOREIGN MINISTER MOUKNASS RETURNED TO NOUAKCHOTT SEPT. 5 FROM SERIESOF OUT-OF-COUNTRY TRIPS. I WILL TRY TO SEE HIM LATER THIS WEEK OR EARLY NEXT WEEK IN ORDER TO RAISE KOREAN QUESTION AGAIN PER STATE 220773 AND TO DISCUSS SELECTED UNGA ISSUES CONTAINED STATE 220772. SHINN

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